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*Terre Haute. Geography*

INDIANA ROOM

# FOREWORD

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A GEGRAPHICAL PORTRAYAL OF TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

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REFERENCE  
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Terre Haute is not a beautiful city. Individuality, however, does not imply beauty - it may even allude to ugliness. Public buildings in Terre Haute show little character. Few residences are beautiful. The attractive spots are more significant for their utility than for their aesthetic qualities. A concentration of smoke along the main east-west highway through the city indicates the location of the Central Business District, while a circle of smoke delimits the industrial belt near the city's margin. The less dense smoke emanations between the center and the circumference come from the smaller chimneys of the main residential area, while selected sections north and east, near the borders of the city, have been chosen for the newer and more elaborate residences of those whose wealth has enabled them to

## FOREWORD

To the individual travelling westward along the National Road, especially in winter, the pall of smoke, (or smog), covering the Wabash Valley, usually signifies nothing but the presence of a dirty city. In summer, although the smoke is not so noticeably dense, it is seldom lacking. The casual observer sees nothing of significance in smoke excepting the disagreeableness of its presence, but the trained observer reads into it a meaning which, in this particular case, serves as a clue to the individuality of the city from whose chimneys it rises - it represents cheap coal and its accompanying economic advantage.

Terre Haute is not a beautiful city. Individuality, however, does not imply beauty - it may even allude to ugliness. Public buildings in Terre Haute show little character. Few residences are beautiful. The attractive spots are more significant for their utility than for their aesthetic qualities. A concentration of smoke along the main east-west highway through the city indicates the location of the Central Business District, while a circle of smoke delimits the industrial belt near the city's margin. The less dense smoke emanations between the center and the circumference come from the smaller chimneys of the main residential area, while selected sections north and east, near the borders of the city, have been chosen for the newer and more elaborate residences of those whose wealth has enabled them to



## A GEOGRAPHIC PORTRAYAL OF TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Terre Haute is a mid-western city of 33,810 inhabitants, somewhat withdrawn from the smoke and dirt of the more undesirable portions of the city. Smoke does not beget beauty, but it does denote activity. It is through the interwoven activities, based largely on cheap coal, that the individuality of Terre Haute may be recognized and portrayed.

As a basis for portrayal of the cultural forms in Terre Haute, there are several factors which we should bear in mind as having contributed to the production of these forms. (1) Location in middle western United States near the parallel of 40 degrees north latitude presupposes a climate dominated by cyclones and anticyclones. An average January temperature of 30 degrees Fahrenheit and July temperature of 77 degrees, with alternating periods of rise and fall of temperature, and an average annual rainfall of 38.7 inches, with more than three inches per month during the growing season, make for desirable agricultural possibilities in the area adjacent to Terre Haute and encourage the maximum of human activity. (2) The site of the city is the plain of the early Wabash River, which is now 25 feet above the normal level of the present stream. East and west of Terre Haute, about five miles apart, are rises to the capping land of the Illinoian moraine. (3) From the standpoint of agriculture, the glacial soils of the region are fertile. Terre Haute is near the southern edge of the Corn Belt and other grains, fruits, and vegetables are grown extensively in the region.

## A GEOGRAPHIC PORTRAYAL OF TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Terre Haute is a mid-western city of 62,810 inhabitants. When one examines the factors which have contributed to its growth he finds no difficulty in explaining its present size. In fact, judging from the observable conditions, its advantageous location leads one to wonder why the city is not considerably larger.

As a basis for portrayal of the cultural forms in Terre Haute, there are several factors which we should bear in mind as having contributed to the production of those forms. (1) Location in middle western United States near the parallel of 40 degrees north latitude presupposes a climate dominated by cyclones and anticyclones. An average January temperature of 30 degrees Fahrenheit and July temperature of 77 degrees, with alternating periods of rise and fall of temperature, and an average annual rainfall of 38.7 inches, with more than three inches per month during the growing season, make for desirable agricultural possibilities in the area adjacent to Terre Haute and encourage the maximum of human activity. (2) The site of the city is the plain of the early Wabash River, which is now 25 feet above the normal level of the present stream. East and west of Terre Haute, about five miles apart, are rises to the undulating land of the Illinoian moraine. (3) From the standpoint of agriculture, the glacial soils of the region are fertile. Terre Haute is near the southern edge of the Corn Belt and other grains, fruits, and vegetables are grown extensively in the region.



Glacial and stream deposits also furnish sand and gravel for building purposes. (4) Figure 1 shows Terre Haute to be near the center of production of the Indiana coal field. (5) Across the Wabash River, west of the city, are valuable deposits of shale. (6) For many years the center of population of the United States has been near Terre Haute. It is now forty miles south of the city. (7) Important railroads, (Fig. 1), connect Terre Haute with the outstanding producing and consuming regions of the United States, and concrete highways parallel the railroads in all directions.

northern part of the city, where the yard space is ordinarily less extensive, it might be taken as typical of  
 Terre Haute's Residential Areas  
 superior residences in other sections.

The casual visitor fails to see the better qualities in the residences in Terre Haute and is impressed with the general dinginess of the exteriors. Bituminous coal from the immediate vicinity is almost universally burned in the city. The lack of smoke consumers in the larger furnaces and disregard for scientific methods of stoking of smaller furnaces cause the air throughout Terre Haute to be filled with soot and ash, especially during the winter months. Newly painted wood or fresh brick or stone surfaces are soon obscured by an incrustation which greatly detracts from the neat appearance which the exteriors would exhibit otherwise. It is only through observing the attractiveness and comfort inside the homes that one should form his permanent impression of Terre Haute's residences.

Fig. 4-A good residence near the business district.  
 location, are divided into apartments.

Figure 2 shows the classification of the residential sections, both within the city limits and in the immediate metropolitan area, into superior, good, and poor. In many cases the

individual types are greatly mixed, but it is notable that the extreme types are less frequently mixed than the superior and good, and the good and poor.

The superior residential sections are mainly at least a half-mile, and those in the extreme east and north portions of the city more than a mile, from the retail center of Terre Haute. Sections east and north are made up mostly of comparatively new houses, and with more than the average amount of spacing between the homes. Although Figure 3 is a picture of a superior residence in the southern part of the city, where the yard space is ordinarily less extensive, it might be taken as typical of superior residences in other sections.

Figure 3-A superior residence.

#### POPULATION

The areas of good residences vary considerably. A good house may be old but comfortable, with a yard space of medium size, (Fig. 4), or new but small, with adequate yard space. If a greater amount of time had been devoted to the survey, the good residences might have been divided into two or more groups, thus allowing for more accurate mapping.

Fig. 4-A good residence near the business district. Many such residences, because of their favorable location, are divided into apartments.

#### The Central Business District

The poor residences, (Fig. 5), are somewhat scattered but mainly are grouped in the older sections of the city near the Wabash River. Ramshackle or small houses, with little yard space, are the distinguishing features of this type. The sections of poorer homes, both in the western and southeastern



portions of the city, house many negroes and poor whites from the southern states.

Fig. 5-A group of poor residences in the western part of Terre Haute.

such Residences occupy nearly all of the available land within the city limits and many small communities have developed outside the city, (Fig. 2), where tax rates are lower, land is cheaper, and opportunities for yard and garden space offer inducements. The population figures for Terre Haute and Vigo County, (in which Terre Haute is located), for the censuses of 1920 and 1930 are indicative of the tendency to move outside the city limits.

is an attempt to show the heart of the Central Business District by means of superimposing the profiles of the two sides of the streets and using the comparative heights and lengths of buildings as the basis for our conclusions.

	<u>POPULATION</u>	
	<u>1920</u>	<u>1930</u>
Terre Haute	66,083	62,810
Vigo County (urban)	70,393	66,398
Vigo County (rural)	29,819	32,463

While Vigo County lost 3,995 of its urban residents, Terre Haute lost 3,273. During the same period the rural population in the County increased 2,644, most of whom must have come from Terre Haute.

highest building in the city is located on south Sixth Street, a half-block from The Central Business District

Many of the buildings in the heart of the Central Business District are new and attractive. One receives the impression, in (now known as U. S. 40), which dates back about 100 years, one passing through the city along U. S. 40, that the central section would expect the retail section of the city to develop along that is modern and progressive. Several large department stores bring thoroughfare. Figures 6 & 7 show that

to Terre Haute the latest in styles, artistry, and mechanical achievement. The bank and office buildings display thrift, and two first class hotels help to give the visitor a favorable im-

pression. Fig. 7-Superimposed profiles of the Central Business District

ing, housing the post office and the federal court, will be such as the case, Wabash Avenue being the route of U. S. 40 completed on the southwest corner of Cherry and Seventh Streets, through Terre Haute. There has been but slight tendency to build (Fig. 6), and will lend its stateliness to the city's welfare. retail stores more than two blocks away from the east-west traffic artery, all the larger stores having most or all their frontage either eastward or westward, the observer soon finds, as he does on Wabash Avenue. Smaller stores away from the Central Business District in many cities over 100 years old, a rapid change from attractive to unattractive business places. It is unfortunate that the significance.

Figure 7 is an attempt to show the heart of the Central Business District by means of superimposing the profiles of the two sides of the streets and using the comparative heights and lengths of buildings as the basis for our conclusions. The higher buildings along Wabash Avenue between Fifth and Eighth Streets, services of a local character, the office buildings of the Central Business District contain many offices which give to the (northeast corner of Wabash Avenue and Seventh Street). Ohio and Cherry Streets, between Fifth and Eighth Streets, and the blocks between Ohio and Wabash, and Cherry and Wabash, should also be included in the heart of the Central Business District. The highest building in the city is located on south Sixth Street, a half-block from Wabash Avenue.

Many of the buildings in the heart of the Central Business District are new and attractive. One receives the impression, in passing through the city along U. S. 40, that the central section is modern and progressive. Several large department stores bring larger wholesale grocers manufacture baking powder, spices, and coffee which have a national distribution. Most firms, however,



to Terre Haute the latest in styles, artistry, and mechanical achievement. The bank and office buildings display thrift, and two first class hotels help to give the visitor a favorable impression of the city. Within the next few months a federal building, housing the post office and the federal court, will be completed on the southwest corner of Cherry and Seventh Streets, (Fig. 6), and will lend its stateliness to the city's welfare.

Passing from the heart of the Central Business District, either eastward or westward, the observer soon finds, as he does in many cities over 100 years old, a rapid change from attractive to unattractive business places. It is unfortunate that the visitor's last impression of Terre Haute, as he leaves the city on U. S. 40, going west (especially if he is going westward,) is not the impression which the citizen would desire. The older store buildings are near the Wabash River.

Aside from housing lawyers, dentists, physicians, and services of a local character, the office buildings of the Central Business District contain many offices which give to the city a regional, and even a national, standing. Through such offices business is carried on with nearby and more distant communities. The headquarters of many coal companies typify this extra-local aspect.

Wholesale houses are located toward the borders of the Central Business District, (Fig. 2), away from high rents and near transportation lines. Groceries, dry goods, hardware, furniture, and other types of merchandise for local and regional requirements, are found in these establishments. Some of the larger wholesale grocers manufacture baking powder, spices, and coffee which have a national distribution. Most firms, however,

sell their goods to retailers within a radius of 100 miles from Terre Haute, utilizing trucks and railroads for transportation.

The banking facilities of Terre Haute are adequate. The recent economic stress has closed the doors of one bank in the Central Business District, but the other four have exhibited substantial strength and are meeting the business needs of the city as usual.

Figure 1 shows the regional setting of Terre Haute with respect to railroad connections, and Figure 5 shows the arrangement within the

#### The Terre Haute Retail Trading Area

Although it is not the purpose of this discussion to venture an interpretation of Terre Haute, it might not be amiss, at this juncture, to call attention to the size of the trading area which has given rise to many of the functional forms found in the Central Business District. Plate I<sup>1</sup> is a map of this so-called "Wabash Valley Empire", of which Terre Haute is the center. The figures in rectangles on the map indicate the average number of persons passing those particular spots daily. The total for the seven roads radiating from Terre Haute is 43,368. Admitting that many of those people were counted twice, the figures would still remain significant. The relative widths of the roads in Plate I serve to form an immediate picture of Terre Haute's position in its trade realm. (The tables in Plate II<sup>1</sup> afford further explanation of the development of business houses in Terre Haute.)

ton, Ill.; Peoria, Decatur, and Springfield, Ill.; Evansville and Bloomfield, Ind.; Paris and Mattoon, Ill.; Grandforkville,

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<sup>1</sup>Plates I and II were furnished to the writer by Mr. Rex Bell, of the Dishon Advertising Company, Terre Haute, being taken from a Trade Atlas of Indiana published by the Dishon Company.



ing Terre Haute with distant cities such as Chicago to the north and Evansville to the south, Dayton, Ohio, to the east and St. Louis to the west.

### Terre Haute's Transportational Advantages

Four railroad systems - Pennsylvania; Big Four, (C.C.C. & St.L.); Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific; and Chicago and Eastern Illinois, forming a total of eleven lines radiating from the city, (Fig. 1), serve Terre Haute. In addition, one electric line connects with the system of which Indianapolis is the center. Figure 1 shows the regional setting of Terre Haute with respect to railroad connections, and Figure 8 shows the arrangement within the city. Both passenger and freight service on all lines place Terre

Indianapolis on regular schedules but is facing discontinuance of its daily air mail service from both north and south, and the Haute in an advantageous position as a manufacturing, wholesale, and retail center.

Good paved highways, especially U. S. 40 and U. S. 41, (the Dixie "B"), (Fig. 8), not only encourage small car traffic to and from Terre Haute, but have made the operation of bus and truck lines an easy matter. Eleven bus lines operate through or from the city. Two coast-to-coast lines make regular stops at the bus stations (shown in Figure 6.) One line from Chicago to Evansville, Nashville, and Birmingham follows U. S. 41 with a station stop in Terre Haute. Other lines accommodate passengers to Lafayette, Fort Wayne, and South Bend; Danville and Bloomington, Ill.; Peoria, Decatur, and Springfield, Ill.; Evansville and Bloomfield, Ind.; Paris and Mattoon, Ill.; Crawfordsville, Ind.; Robinson, Ill.; Brazil and Harmony, Ind.; and Clinton, Ind. Over 30 trucking companies operate on regular runs connect-

ing Terre Haute with distant cities such as Chicago to the north and Evansville to the south, Dayton, Ohio, to the east and St. Louis to the west, and numerous nearer cities. Aside from the regular trucking lines, several operators contract to haul goods or raw materials anywhere in the United States. In Terre Haute, as elsewhere, the competition between trucks and railroads is producing a problem which is pressing for solution.

The one electric railroad serving Terre Haute, (three others, to Paris, Ill., to Clinton, Ind., and to Sullivan, Ind., were recently abandoned), is running passenger and freight cars to Indianapolis on regular schedules but is facing discontinuance of its operation unless future adjustments bring it more income.

Daily air mail service from both north and south, and the excellent Dresser Airport, (Fig. 8), for emergency landings for transcontinental planes which pass over the city daily, presage a future development which will add to the city's transportation advantages.

Factory and store managers and owners in Terre Haute are unanimous in the assertion that its transportation facilities are highly favorable for the efficient handling of their business relations. In fact, as will be indicated later in this discussion, many business enterprises located in the city, or on its borders, because of the superior transportation advantages which the area offers.

#### Manufactural Establishments

In a hasty survey such as this, it is impossible to note every detail and classify every functional form in a city as large



as Terre Haute. The study of the manufactural establishments, therefore, will present only a few of the outstanding features, the main emphasis being placed on the location and type of plant, its local, regional, and national connections, and the advantages and disadvantages which it experiences because of its location in Terre Haute. — two or more floors with yards,

Figures 2 and 8 show the location of the principal manufactural establishments. It is notable that many factories are located outside the city. In several cases the city boundary has been changed in order to offer the advantage of a low tax rate, (which obtains outside the city limits), as an inducement for plants to locate near Terre Haute. In one instance, that of the Root Glass Company in the southern part of the city, (Figs. 2 and 8), the city boundary surrounds the plant excepting a strip a few feet wide which extends southward to the city limits and places the plant outside the realm of high municipal taxes. Employment of Terre Haute citizens, however, offers justification for such arrangements.

The type of plant in which any particular product is fabricated, the amount of yard space, and the location of the plant with respect to transportation routes, depend largely upon the nature of the product and of the raw materials used in its manufacture. This is especially true if the buildings have been designed and placed on the grounds with the intention of manufacturing the particular product which is manufactured in them at the present time. The geographer, therefore, in portraying the functional forms of a city, is justified in attempting to classify manufactural establishments according to types of

structures and their utilization of yard space. In the following discussion six types will be recognized, viz;

Type 1 - ground floor structures without yards,

Type 2 - ground floor structures with yards,

Type 3 - two or more floors without yards,

Type 4 - two or more floors with yards,

Type 5 - combination of ground floor and several floors

Type 6 - combination of ground floor and several floors

with yards,

Most of the selected manufactural establishments, which we

shall briefly discuss, are located outside the city. Referring

to Figure 8, there are three factories, with adjoining proper-

ties, located north and just outside a re-entrant made by the

city boundary, along the Big Four, (C.C.C. & St. L.), railroad

tracks. These plants were selected because they present variety

in form and product. The northernmost is the Terre Haute

Malleable and Manufacturing Company, south of that is the Wabash

Fibre Box Company, and the southernmost is the Columbian Enamel-

ing and Stamping Company.

The Terre Haute Malleable and Manufacturing Company, (Fig. 9), is a Type 2 structure. Under normal business conditions it employs

Fig. 9-The Terre Haute Malleable and Manufacturing Company.

500 people. The plant produces malleable iron and gray iron cast-

ings from patterns furnished by customers. Pig iron shipped from

South Chicago, sand from Sandusky, Ohio, Ottawa, Illinois, Michigan

City and Evansville, Indiana, and coal from Eastern Kentucky for

ing and Stamping Company, normally has over 1,000 employees. It



melting the iron and from the Terre Haute area for annealing, less form the raw materials used by the company. The finished products find a market within a radius of 400 miles of Terre Haute, mostly in Detroit and the industrial area along the Great Lakes. The company was established in Terre Haute when the manufacture of agricultural implements, mainly in the Corn Belt, was at its zenith. Transportation facilities and central location offered by Terre Haute were deciding factors at that time, but present markets in the Detroit area necessitate the payment of six dollars per ton for transportation of the products, which seriously handicaps the local plant. The nearest users of malleable castings are located in Indianapolis, and competition even at that distance is difficult to meet. The Terre Haute Malleable is the only manufacturing plant of those selected for study which finds its location in Terre Haute disadvantageous at present.

(Fig. One of the smaller manufactural establishments to be discussed in this paper is that of the Wabash Fibre Box Company, which is a Type 3 plant employing about 110 people. It buys approximately one-third of its paper stock from the Terre Haute Paper Company, sells eighty-five per cent of its product within a radius of 200 miles, and ships by rail or truck, seventy-five per cent of the shipments being in carload lots. Located where labor is generally law-abiding and mainly unorganized, the company can ship by truck to Chicago, deliver orders there on 24-hour notice, and compete successfully with Chicago concerns which are less fortunate in their labor connections. The third plant of the group, that of the Columbian Enameling and Stamping Company, normally has over 1,000 employees. It

is a Type 4 establishment, manufacturing enameled ware, stainless steel products, and wall and roofing tile, for markets scattered throughout the United States, South America, Europe, and China. The raw materials used are obtained from many sources - antimony from China; feldspar from North Carolina; steel from Gary, Ohio cities, and Pittsburgh; borax from the Pacific coast; clay from Florida and Germany; and cryolite from Greenland. Local coal is used entirely. With its world-wide markets and widely distributed sources of raw materials, the Columbian Enameling and Stamping Company finds Terre Haute a favorable location because of transportation facilities, cheap local coal, and a good supply of unskilled labor.

In 1930 the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company established its Quaker Maid Company outside the city limits of Terre Haute, east of the city and south of the Pennsylvania railroad, (Fig. 8). Figure 10, (page 20), is a picture of the plant, which is representative of Type 3. The Quaker Maid Company manufactures preserves, macaroni, spaghetti, extracts, household ammonia, noodles, peanut butter, salad dressing, and cans pork and beans and bottles olives. The only local raw materials used are eggs for the salad dressing and coal for heat and power. Local manufactured products used include cans from the American Can Company, and boxes from

more canning and will therefore justify the American Can Company

Fig. 10-The Quaker Maid Company's plant. is fully equipping and thus increasing the capacity of its present the Wabash Fibre Box Company. The Terre Haute branch of the Quaker Maid Company supplies the western warehouses of the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, and ships elsewhere when the freight rates are favorable. Five hundred people, half of whom are women, are



employed in the local plant. Good transportation, low tax rates, cheap fuel, and locally manufactured cans and boxes seem to have been the determining factors in the location of the plant in the Terre Haute area.

On the east bank of the Wabash River, between the Pennsylvania R. R. bridge and the highway bridge, (Fig. 8), the city boundary jogs east from the center of the river, placing the property of the American Can Company outside the city. The local plant, (Fig. 11), is one of over sixty distributed over the United States. The

Fig. 11-The East Bank of the Wabash River, looking north from the highway bridge. The white building in the center is the American Can Company.

Terre Haute Paper Company, (Fig. 13). This company has a smaller nearest plants to this one are at Indianapolis, Ind., and Hoopeston, Ill. The Terre Haute plant may be classified as Type 5. It uses local coal, buys sheet tin from Elwood and Gary, Ind., and sells food product cans to the Quaker Maid Company and Loudon Packing Company in Terre Haute, and to Kentucky and Tennessee firms. The Pennsylvania and Big Four railroads serve the American Can Company, all shipments being made by rail unless the customers specify shipment by truck. The factory was only partially equipped when it was opened three years ago. It is expected that the possibilities of the local agricultural area will eventually lead to more canning and will therefore justify the American Can Company in fully equipping and thus increasing the capacity of its present plant.

In the southwestern part of Terre Haute the Type 6 structure of the Commercial Solvents Corporation is to be found, (Fig. 12).

This chemical plant is located here because of the abundance of almost surrounded by the city but still outside the city limits.

Fig. 12-The Commercial Solvents Corporation.

(as mentioned on page 10), is the plant of the Root Glass Company, corn, coal, and water. Its products are used in the lacquer, rubber, artificial silk, and other industries, and therefore are distributed nationally. The railroads radiating from Terre Haute are again a major consideration in the location of the plant.

South of the Commercial Solvents Corporation, and outside the city limits, is another industry which makes use of the agricultural resources of the region, viz: the south plant of the Terre Haute Paper Company, (Fig. 13). This company has a smaller plant in the eastern part of the city. The south plant is a Type 6 structure. It collects wheat straw from an area with a radius of 100 miles and converts it into paper, using over 50,000 tons

has given rise to brick and tile industries of more than local significance. Fig. 13-South plant of the Terre Haute Paper Company. In the background at the left are piles of baled wheat straw, to be converted into paper. (Fig. 13); the Terre Haute Vitriified Brick Company, (Fig. 17); and

of coal annually in the process. The product is sold to fabricators as far away as New York City and Seattle. In this as in other nationally distributed products manufactured in Terre Haute, the position of the city near the center of population of the United States is an important consideration. Still further south is the Type 2 plant of the Indiana Wood Preserving Company with its extensive yards, (Fig. 14). Although much wood is bought by the company, to be treated with creosote and sold, the C., M., St. P. & P. R. R. has a contract with the local concern and brings wood to it for treatment.



East of the Terre Haute Paper Company's south plant, and almost surrounded by the city but still outside the city limits, (as mentioned on page 10), is the plant of the Root Glass Company, (Fig. 15). When brewing and distilling were important industries in Terre Haute, several glass companies were in operation, but the Turner Glass Company and the Root Glass Company are the only survivors. The Root Company is a Type 2 plant. It uses local coal, and brings sand from about 40 miles east of Terre Haute, and crushed limestone from Bedford, Ind., for manufacture. The glass bottles which are produced are sold all over the United States, the Coca-Cola Company being one of the largest buyers.

West of the Wabash River, where the floodplain gives way to the Illinois moraine, deposits of shale of Pennsylvanian age are near the surface. Presence of this shale, and of coal seams which are nearby or even interbedded with the shale, in some instances, has given rise to brick and tile industries of more than local significance. Three large plants; the National Drain Tile Company, (Fig. 16); the Terre Haute Vitrified Brick Company, (Fig. 17); and the Vigo-American Clay Company, (Fig. 18), take advantage of this proximity of raw materials.

The Dresser Power Plant, a super-power plant, is located on the west bank of the Wabash River several miles south of Terre Haute, (Fig. 19). It is a steam plant, the coal for its operation coming from mines almost directly under the plant. In Figure 19 the coal hoist is shown at the left, and the inclined conveyor, which takes the coal to storage bins above the boilers, is plainly visible. Another advantage which the Dresser Plant has is that it is located south of the city near Dresser Airport, (Fig. 8). It is

is directly on the Wabash River, from which it obtains the enormous quantities of water necessary for cooling the condensers. Here Fifty thousand kilowatts of power is the normal production of the generators, although the plant can produce 60,000 kilowatts. Terre Haute obtains its entire supply of electrical power from the Dresser Plant, and partial supplies are furnished to Indianapolis and to many cities in central Indiana. In emergencies, however, tie-ups can be made so that a much larger area may be served.

The foregoing brief discussion of selected manufactural establishments is only designed to portray this phase of Terre Haute's activities in a superficial manner. Numerous other concerns, such as the Grasselli Chemical Company, Wabash Sand and Gravel Company, Loudon Packing Company, American Car and Foundry Company, Highland Iron and Steel Company, Miller-Parrott Baking Company, Smith-Alsop Paint and Varnish Company, Stahl-Urban Company (Manufacturers of overalls and work shirts), and many others, might have been included. Those selected, however, show the local, regional, and national setting of Terre Haute in the industrial world, which it has been our purpose to establish, and further discussion of manufactural establishments and types would be too extensive for a paper of this nature.

### Terre Haute An Unusual Industry Center

Terre Haute possesses one industry which is probably the largest of its kind in the United States, and possibly in the world. This is the indoor garden of the J. W. Davis Company, located south of the city near Dresser Airport, (Fig. 8). It is



essentially a hot house covering 31 acres of land devoted almost entirely to the raising of cucumbers, (Figs. 20, 21, and 22). Here we find definite proof that man is not "controlled by his environment". Within the glass buildings optimum temperature and moisture conditions for the raising of cucumbers are maintained throughout the winter months, thanks to the steam produced by the 15,000 tons of local coal burned each year, and the abundant supply of ground water obtainable at a depth of 70 feet. A crop of cucumbers is produced in about ten weeks, the marketing season being from January to August. Aside from the local coal, other raw materials needed by the Davis Gardens are manures and artificial fertilizers, all of which are obtained from Chicago. Cucumbers are transported by rail and truck, (ninety per cent by truck), to the northeastern quarter of the United States, to Chicago, Detroit, Buffalo, Rochester, Boston, New York City, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and intermediate cities.

Between some of the major sections of their hot-houses, (Fig. 21), the Davis Company has cellars for the raising of mushrooms. Temperatures below 65 degrees Fahrenheit, and relative absence of light, are necessary for mushroom production. About 15,000 pounds of mushrooms are produced each year and marketed along with the cucumbers.

#### Terre Haute as an Educational Center

The public schools of Terre Haute comprise two Senior High Schools, a Technical High School, three Junior High Schools, and 19 Grade Schools. There are also six parochial schools, including two High Schools. A private school offers work in all grades



from kindergarten through four years of high school. The city, therefore, meets its local educational needs in a highly commendable manner.

From the regional, national, and even international aspects, however, Terre Haute presents educational advantages which merit attention. Indiana State Teachers College is located two blocks from the heart of the city, (Fig. 6). Rose Polytechnic Institute is two miles east of the city limits, and St. Mary-of-the-Woods College for Girls is three miles northwest of Terre Haute.

Indiana State Teachers College, (Fig. 23), has an average enrollement of 1,700 students for four twelve-week Quarters each year. During the Fall Quarter of 1932 the 1,721 students were

From Vigo County. . . . . 53.4%  
From Indiana outside Vigo County. . . . . 28.3%

Fig. 23-Indiana State Teachers College is located within two blocks of the heart of the Central Business District of Terre Haute.

property valued at \$10,000,000, and has offered college work since 1848. The present enrollment of 248 comes from 28 states, Germany, and Porto Rico. Over thirty per cent of the enrollment is from

	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
From Vigo County	790	45.9
From remainder of Indiana	893	51.9
From Illinois	35	2.0
From Kentucky	1	
From Ohio	1	
From West Virginia	1	

Total 1,721

While, from the nature of the institution, the State Teachers College naturally finds its greatest usefulness within the state, its graduates are spread over the entire country. In that



connection it gives Terre Haute a far-reaching significance. Both materially and educationally it is the city's most productive industry.

Rose Polytechnic Institute, (Fig. 24), occupies a large tract

Fig. 24—Rose Polytechnic Institute, two miles east of Terre Haute, has a world-wide reputation as an engineering college.

of land east of the city to which it moved in 1922 from its downtown site which it had occupied since 1883. It offers four-year courses in Chemical, Civil, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering, and has graduates scattered all over the world. Its present enrollment is 339, mainly distributed as follows:

From Vigo County. . . . .	53.4%
From Indiana outside Vigo County. . . . .	28.3%
From states bordering Indiana . . . . .	14.7%

St. Mary-of-the-Woods College for Girls, (Fig. 25), has a property valued at \$10,000,000, and has offered college work since 1846. The present enrollment of 246 comes from 29 states, Germany, and Porto Rico. Over thirty per cent of the enrollment is from Illinois, mainly from Chicago, and fifteen per cent from Indiana.

Fig. 25—St. Mary-of-the-Woods College for Girls, located three miles northwest of Terre Haute.

Two other schools, located in Terre Haute, which attract students from the Wabash Valley, are the Wabash-Brown Business College, (Fig. 6), and Ernestine Meyers' School of the Stage.

#### Other Congregational Establishments.

Terre Haute possesses two hospitals to which patients come from bordering areas, numerous churches, some of which are shown



in Figure 6, a Y. M. C. A., a Y. W. C. A., one public and several branch libraries, and 538 acres in 16 parks, which are so placed that all parts of the city may be served. A municipal stadium costing \$450,000 and accommodating 16,000 people, two municipal swimming pools, (one for white and one for colored people), two municipal golf courses, and three private golf and country clubs, offer opportunities for sports and recreation which are found in few cities the size of Terre Haute.

### Conclusions

The functional forms in Terre Haute exhibit characteristics whose origins are traceable, although sometimes obscurely, to man's exploitation of the environmental factors enumerated in the second paragraph of this paper. Portrayal of those forms by maps, pictures, and description, therefore, is made much more comprehensive if the local, regional, and national settings are borne in mind. Functional forms are expressions of the thoughts of men, and whether they engender favorable or unfavorable impressions they denote the progress which man has made in the utilization of the resources which he has recognized. Some of the forms found in Terre Haute today are obsolete, some are new, but most, if not all, have been conceived in the smoke of cheap coal, which gives to the city that intangible thing called individuality, the portrayal of which has been the theme of this paper.